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April 24, 2018

Malinda Matson, Economic Development Representative for Northern and Coastal California US Economic Development Administration 915 Second Ave Room 1890 Seattle, WA 98174 1-916-235-0088 mmatson@eda.gov

RE: Solano County support for Bay Area Economic District and related Vision, Goals and Objectives

Dear Ms. Matson:

This letter expresses support from the Solano County Board of Supervisors for the final Vision, Goals and Objectives for incorporation in to the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the establishment of a Bay Area Economic Development District.

In 2016, ABAG staff were directed by the Executive Board to partner with the U.S.-EDA and regional and local economic and workforce organizations to prepare a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that would lead to the establishment of a Bay Area Regional Economic Development District (EDD). The CEDS describes regional economic conditions and trends, identifies strengths and challenges, and includes the *Vision, Goals and Objectives* that will guide the activities of the Regional Economic Development District. The EDD will be a platform for cooperative action, shared information, and developing creative policy responses to address economic, workforce and equity issues that no single jurisdiction, organization or enterprise can solve alone. The CEDS Action Plan and Regional EDD designation will improve local jurisdiction access to federal, state and private foundation investments, foster greater public and private collaboration, and expand the effectiveness of local and regional resources. We appreciate that the CEDS is necessarily broad to reflect the range of interests and circumstances in the nine county region, while containing enough objectives applicable to the smaller counties to ensure they will have access to the potential benefits of an EDD.

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors we hereby support the *Vision, Goals and Objectives* set forth in the Bay Area's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and the establishment of Regional Economic Development District per the request of the Association of Bay Area Governments.

Sincerely,

JOHN M. VASQUEZ, Chair Solano County Board of Supervisors

cc: Julie Pierce, President, Association of Bay Area Governments Johnny Jaramillo, Principal Planner, Economic Program Manager